

October 14, 1936

[Pontiac, Saunais - Train Platform]

FDR Speech - File

0966

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT  
OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
FROM THE REAR PLATFORM OF HIS SPECIAL TRAIN  
PONTIAC, ILLINOIS  
October 14, 1936, 3:31 P.M.

(Governor Horner introduced the President.  
There were about three thousand people in the  
audience.)

My friends, I am glad to come to Pontiac.

I have been through here before a good many years ago.  
I came through here at a time when you had the finest  
crop of corn that I have ever seen in the United States.

I have been having a wonderful trip, getting  
to know this country better. One of the privileges of  
being President and one of the duties is to get out and  
begin to know the United States.

On this trip I have been tremendously im-  
pressed with two things: first, the comparison between  
conditions in 1932 and in 1936. (Applause) Secondly,  
I have been impressed by the fact that more men and more  
women are taking an intelligent interest in problems of  
government, in social problems and economic problems,  
than ever before in our history. I am very certain not  
only that things are better but that people want them to  
get better.



I have been amused by some of the stories going around. I call them, "ghost stories". I was telling a very large audience down in Bloomington that one of the stories going around is that I had limited the amount of money that would be loaned on farms to twenty-five dollars an acre. Of course that is another ghost, because I know farms in the United States. I have some farm land down in Georgia that I would not lend five dollars an acre on and, on the other hand, I know a lot of farms in the United States on which I would lend a hundred dollars an acre. Of course, it depends on the farm and where it is and a little bit on the fellow who is running the farm.

It is good to see you. I have had a wonderful trip and I hope very much to be able to come back to this territory in the next four years. I think I am going to. (Applause)

It is good to be back in Illinois, back campaigning with Governor Horner and with Hamilton Lewis. (Applause)

In less than three weeks - just think of that -

I am going to be sitting in my own home up on the Hudson River waiting for the returns and I am quite confident that when those returns come in from Illinois on the third of November that they are going to be extremely satisfactory and that I am going to sleep well that night. (Applause)

Here is Mrs. Roosevelt. Let me present her to you. (Applause)